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OFF-LOADING TRANSFER PIPING: Fluor Federal Services pipe fitters off-load the first shipment of transfer piping for CH2M HILL Hanford Group's Project W-211, Initial Tank Retrieval Systems. The piping system will enable transfers of high-level waste and lowactivity waste to the Waste Treatment Plant. The pipe spools are being fabricated for CH2M HILL by HiLine Engineering and Fabrication at the Richland Airport. Two shipments a week of pipe spools will be received from HiLine over an eight-week period. The pipe spools are insulated, doublewalled pipe containing a 3-inch stainless steel carrier pipe inside a 6-inch carbon steel encasement pipe. In addition, the encasement pipe has an epoxy coating, rigid insulation and a protective jacket.

SAFETY UNDER THE BIG TOP: Welder Jerry Nelson, left, of Fluor Hanford and field work supervisor Mike Long of CH2M HILL Hanford Group review the work package for cutting two 10-inch holes in Tank 001 using a remotely operated plasma-arc cutting torch during the 244-AR Vault Stabilization project in the 200 East Area. Craft and project personnel were able to work without respirators within the containment tent that was installed to limit their exposure to airborne contamination. The canyon outside the tent is an airborne contamination area. The plasma-arc cutting torch was assembled above the waste tank and installed in sections. The assembly was then used to cut holes in the top of the tanks so pumping systems could be installed. The cutting tool for this job was developed and tested in a full-scale mockup. Integrated Safety Management System tools such as employee input during the mock-up, enhanced work planning sessions and pre-job briefings ensured that the effort was safely undertaken.



Picture Pages



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SIGNS OF THE TIMES: At the request of the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, Bechtel Hanford has posted hazardous soil warning signs in the 100 Area and similar warning signs at other locations along the Columbia River shoreline. The signs were erected to meet a commitment between DOE-RL and its regulators — not because of any new discoveries or recent changes in soil conditions. They do not replace existing postings in areas of known radiological or hazardous material contaminations. Bechtel advises that you continue to follow established entry requirements into posted areas. If you have any questions, contact the DOE-RL Office at 376-7501.